

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region

January 19, 2001

ITEM: 11

SUBJECT: Amendment to Order No. 99-21, NPDES No. CA8000394, Waste Discharge Requirements, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Inland Feeder Project, Riverside and San Bernardino County, Order No. 01-14

DISCUSSION:

On April 9, 1999 the Regional Board adopted Order No. 99-21, NPDES No. CA8000394, for the discharge of wastes associated with the construction of the Inland Feeder Project by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. The Inland Feeder Project will extend from the State Water Project facilities in the San Bernardino Mountains to the Colorado River Aqueduct in San Jacinto. Sections of the pipeline will pass through or near the San Bernardino National Forest and the communities of Highland, Yucaipa, San Bernardino, Redlands, Riverside, Perris, Moreno Valley, and San Jacinto Valley. The 43.5 mile system will consist of approximately 18 miles of 14-foot diameter tunnels and 25.5 miles of 12 foot diameter pipelines. Order No. 99-21 specifies requirements for the discharge of wastewater from five separate discharge outfalls associated with the construction of the Inland Feeder Project (Arrowhead Tunnel West (Devils Canyon Power Plant), Arrowhead East Tunnel (Strawberry Creek), Riverside-Badlands Tunnel (San Timoteo Canyon), Riverside-Badlands Tunnel (Gilman Springs Road and Highway 60)).

The discharger recently submitted a request to increase the wastewater flows associated with the dewatering project at Discharge Serial No.004 and 005, Riverside Badlands Tunnel Sites, San Timoteo and Gilman Springs, from 0.6 million gallons per day (MGD) to 1.6 MGD and 2.82 MGD, respectively. The increase in flow is necessary as a result of water encountered at this part of the tunneling operation.

Order No. 01-14 would amend Finding 3 of Order No. 99-21 to recognize the increase in flow at Discharge Serial No. 004 and 005.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Order No. 01-14 as presented.

Comments were solicited from the following agencies:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Permits Issuance Section (WTR-5) – Terry Oda
U.S. Army District, Los Angeles, Corps of Engineers - Regulatory Branch
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Carlsbad
State Water Resources Control Board, Office of the Chief Counsel - Ted Cobb
State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality - John Youngerman

State Department of Water Resources - Glendale
State Department of Fish and Game - Long Beach
State Department of Health Services - San Bernardino
Riverside County Environmental Health Services – Sam Martinez
Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District - Mark Wills
Law Office of Thomas E. Luebben - James K. Hansen
Orange County Coastkeeper – Garry Brown
Lawyers for Clean Water – San Francisco

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region

Order No. 01-14

Amending Order No. 99-21, NPDES No. CA8000394

Waste Discharge Requirements
for
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Inland Feeder Project, Riverside and San Bernardino County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region (hereinafter Board), finds that:

1. On April 9, 1999, the Board adopted Order No. 99-21, NPDES No. CA800394, prescribing waste discharge requirements for Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (hereinafter discharger or MWD) for the discharge of wastewater associated with the construction of the Inland Feeder Project.
2. The discharger is constructing a 43.5-mile system of tunnels and pipelines known as the Inland Feeder Project. The Inland Feeder Project will extend from the State Water Project facilities in the San Bernardino Mountains to the Eastside Reservoir Project at the Colorado River Aqueduct in San Jacinto. Order No. 99-21 regulates wastewater discharges associated with tunnel boring activities (groundwater from dewatering operations and tunnel boring machine-cooling water) at various locations within San Bernardino and Riverside Counties.
3. The discharger recently submitted a request to increase the amount of discharge flows at Discharge Serial No. 004 and 005, Riverside Badlands Tunnel, from 0.6 million gallons per day (MGD) to 1.6 MGD and 2.82 MGD, respectively. The increase in discharge flows is necessary as a result of quantity of groundwater anticipated to be encountered during tunneling operations.
4. It is necessary to amend Order No. 99-21 to reflect the increase in wastewater discharge flows from Discharge Serial No. 004 and 005.
5. In accordance with Water Code Section 13389, the amendment of Order No. 99-21, NPDES No. CA8000394, is exempt from those provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act contained in Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 21100), Division 13 of the Public Resources Code.
6. The Regional Board has notified the discharger and other interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
7. The Regional Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Order No. 99-21 shall be amended as follows:

1. Finding 3 is revised to read as follows:
3. The following table lists the discharge points and affected receiving waters:

| Discharge Serial No. | Discharge Location | Latitude | Longitude | Affected Receiving Water | Flow Rates (MGD) |
|----------------------|--|----------|-----------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 001 | Arrowhead West Tunnel | 34°11' | 117°16' | Tributary to East Twin Creek | 1.0 |
| 002 | Arrowhead East Tunnel | 34°08' | 117°11' | City Creek | 3.0 |
| 003 | Riverside-Badlands Tunnel (Live Oak Facility) | 34°00' | 117°07' | Yucaipa Creek | 0.35 |
| 004 | Riverside Badlands Tunnel (San Timoteo Facility) | 33°59' | 117°07' | San Timoteo Creek | 1.6 |
| 005 | Riverside-Badlands Tunnel (Gilman Springs Portal Facility) | 33°56' | 117°07' | Tributary to San Jacinto River | 2.82 |

2. All other conditions and requirements of Order 99-21 shall remain unchanged.

I, Gerard J. Thibeault, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region, on January 19, 2001.

Gerard J. Thibeault
Executive Officer